

**CDC's Emerging Infections Program
CDC/USDA/FDA Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance Network
Steering Committee Conference Call Minutes**

Date: Tuesday, January 6, 2004 Update meeting for call scheduled Thursday, January 8, 2004
Time: 2:00-4:00 pm
Room: Bldg 3/Rm B-19
Numbers: Number: 888-405-9176 PassCode: 58895

ROLL

CA	GA	NM	TN	USDA/FSIS	CDC/FoodNet	CDC/EHS-NET
CO	MD	NY	FDA	Parasitic dx/CDC		
CT	MN	OR				

A. Administrative

1. Welcome Nicole Ishill (CDC)!

Concerns expressed about the amount of recent staff turnover. Staff at CDC is discussing how to provide more administrative help and move responsibilities around. Welcome any suggestions of people who might fit Matt Moore's position or the senior epidemiologist position.

2. ICEID abstract acceptance

Pleased to report 21 accepted out of the 25 (84%) accepted to ICEID and wish to congratulate authors and co-authors. A budget will be developed within the next couple of weeks concerning travel reimbursement and CDC staff will be contacting sites soon to determine who needs travel reimbursement.

B. Surveillance

1. 2003 data

Please keep in mind preliminary close out of 2003 data for the MMWR is upon us.

Campylobacter and *E. coli* appear to be decreasing and *Listeria* is a bit higher than last year. Kristin Holt (FSIS) noted that they have noticed a drop in the number of positives which occurred without a change in the sampling system. *S. Newport* and *E. coli O157* also appear to be down and Rob Tauxe (CDC) brought up whether this might be a result of the U.S. no longer importing cattle from Canada. Kristin Holt (FSIS) noted they have also seen a decrease in *E. coli O157* and that downer cattle, which FSIS has prohibited from going to slaughter, tend to have more O157. She noted that as a result this decrease may also be seen in 2004. Fred Angulo (CDC) noted that FSIS should begin considering what they want to be noted in the discussions in the MMWR. Bill Keene (OR) suggested expanding the population survey questions to better capture the public's feelings about beef. Fred Angulo (CDC) asked if CA or CO had any comments about their apparent declines in cryptosporidiosis. Duc Vugia (CA) said that the implementation of a new chlorination system will not take place until 2004 so that is not an explanation for the decline and he isn't sure what the cause is. Two case control studies were undertaken in CA – one among immunocompromised individuals which did implicate tap water but another among immunocompetent individuals did not. Also mentioned that there was a change in the CA catchment area so this could account for the decline. *S. Heidelberg* has been increasing and the NARMS retail food study has noted that *S. Heidelberg* is the most common serotype for 2002 and 2003 among meat samples in the FoodNet sites.

1. HUS Surveillance

2. Outbreak table and line list

NY noted that they have seen a decrease in the number of outbreaks from those seen last year and asked if other sites have seen the same thing. Fred Angulo (CDC) mentioned that we hope to extend the Poisson regression model to the HUS and outbreak data as well. Tim Jones (TN) noted that the notes from last year's meeting showed that the rate from last year was 2.4 per million. Cindi Snyder (CDC) said that they hope to create new HUS and outbreak tables following the format of the active surveillance data monthly reports. Cindi was asked to clarify what "possible vehicle" meant in the outbreak list.

C. Proposals

1. Economic analyses to estimate the benefits of reducing cases of salmonellosis for various age-gender groups (Bradley Brown)

Accepted but will talk to Bradley Brown about revisions so it is clear that they will only use surveillance data (and not case control study data or population survey data).

2. Bacterial Meningitis in the United States from 1996-2002 (Sarah Parks)

There were some concerns that this proposal would pre-publish Matt Moore's data but as long as Matt's paper was published first, people

felt comfortable with it.

Accepted as submitted.

3. Analysis of trends in listeriosis in the FoodNet sites, 1996-2002 (Matt Moore)
Already approved in June 2003.

D. Special studies

1. S. Newport, S. Enteritidis, Infant case-control studies

All three case control studies were accepted in various forms to ICEID. There is a renewed effort at CDC to fix the patient tracking tool so more information can be obtained about those patients identified in surveillance who were not enrolled. A dozen isolates still need to be tested for the S. Newport study. There are a few outstanding isolates for the S. Enteritidis study and it would be great if the sites could get these to the lab. Great enrollment in the infant case-control studies although sites are beginning to run into issues with HIPAA/IRB and FoodNet should begin thinking prospectively about how to deal with these problems. In addition, the usage of caller ID and cell phones has made it more difficult to enroll controls.

Ruthanne Marcus (CT) suggested that Tim Jones (TN) be the lead author on the infant case-control study analysis, which was seconded by Paul Ciezlak (OR) and approved by the Steering Committee.

2. *Listeria* case-control study

Thanks to the sites for answering Jay Varma's questions about outbreak related cases.

3. *E. sakazakii* and infant formula

Katie Fullerton (CDC) is working to examine the first infant case control study data to see if dried infant formula is a risk factor for infection and will give the data to Chris Braden (CDC) to present at the WHO meeting on infant formula in early February. The chart abstraction form for *E. sakazakii* will be modified so if sites have comments please pass them along to CDC. Sites with cases agreed to do the study. Rob Tauxe (CDC) noted that *E. sakazakii* is a marker for more general issues about Gram-negative rods in infant formula and is being addressed at the regulatory level both federally and internationally. He also noted that it brings up the issues surrounding how we study emerging infections given the limitations imposed by the new HIPAA regulations. Kirk Smith (MN) said that having a good relationship with ICPs and clinical labs has helped in their state. FDA asked if this could be a special topic at the FoodNet Vision meeting. Fred Angulo (CDC) said that the chart reviews from the 2002 cases should be done by the point so the issue can be discussed. He also said that CFSAN can create time in their agenda to discuss it at the meeting. Fred Angulo (CDC) also asked if *E. coli* could be present in dried formula and if this is something we need to think about in the future. Rob Tauxe (CDC) said that ABCs doesn't track *E. coli* meningitis in neonates but some sites have surveillance for invasive infection in neonates, and that it was worth talking with ABCs about neonatal sepsis surveillance in some sites. Fred Angulo (CDC) will discuss the ABCs the possibility of their presenting some of this data at the Vision meeting. PFGE patterns could be helpful and FDA will get the results of the plant sampling (which isn't done routinely) to Fred Angulo (CDC). Chris Braden (CDC) asked about the *E. sakazakii* chart review for 2003 but Fred Angulo (CDC) said that sites weren't convinced to do it but it could be incorporated into discussions at the Vision meeting.

E. Miscellaneous topics

1. MMWR date (April 30, 2004)

In process of discussing visits with CFSAN and FSIS ; 2 rounds of visits, one in advance of the Vision meeting to discuss priorities of and a meeting after to discuss MMWR results.

2. *Listeria* case history form

The outbreak working group is discussing this and hopes to implement it for all *Listeria* cases from January 1st, 2004 onward. Outbreak working group will discuss; implement form for all *Listeria* cases from January 1st 2004.

3. Zhao S, et al. 2003. Characterization of *Salmonella enterica* Serotype Newport Isolated from Humans and Food Animals. J Clin Micro 41(12):5366-5371
4. Population Survey data reweighted

Weighted data for the 4th cycle of the population survey is available.

Other topics:

Optional meetings on Wednesday March 24th – Guillaume-Barré syndrome surveillance and FoodNet coordinators meetings.

Duc Vugia (CA) mentioned issues BSE in California and frustration around the MOU with USDA concerning what information can be made available to the public. Discussion about bringing this issue up at the next CSTE meeting.

F. Upcoming FoodNet conference calls, meetings, and deadlines

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| 1. Thursday | Jan 8th | 11:00-12:00 pm EST | Attribution Working Group call |
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| 2. Thursday | Jan 15th | 12:00-1:00 pm EST |
| 3. Thursday | Jan. 15th | 3:00-4:00 pm EST |
| 4. Friday | Jan. 16th | 2:00-3:00 pm EST |
| 5. Tuesday | Jan. 20th | 8:00-9:00 am, EST |
| 6. Tuesday | Jan. 20th | 5:00-6:00 pm, EST |
| 7. Tuesday | Jan. 27th | 2:00-3:00 pm EST |
| 8. Thursday | Jan. 29th | 2:00-3:00 pm, EST |
| 9. Tuesday | Feb. 10th | 2:00-4:00 pm EST |
| 10. Thursday | Feb. 12th | 2:00-3:30 pm, EST |
| 11. Sun-Wed | Feb.29-March 3, 2004 | |
| 12. Monday | Mar. 8th | 2:00-3:00 pm EST |
| 13. Thurs-Fri | Mar. 25-26, 2004 | |

- HUS/STEC Working Group call
- Outbreak Working Group call
- Norovirus Working Group call
- Int'l Collaboration of Foodborne Diseases call
- Case Definition call (Int'l Collaboration)
- Interventions Working Group call
- FoodNet Coordinators call
- February Update meeting
- February Steering Committee call
- ICEID
- Infant Case-Control Study call
- FoodNet Vision Meeting**

G. Data Submission Deadlines

1. HUS Surveillance Data Wednesday, February 4th
2. FoodNet Active Data Friday, January 23rd
3. Preliminary 2003 FoodNet Data Friday, January 23rd